

# 10-DAY SVALBARD ARCTIC EXPEDITION WITH HELSINKI HOTEL AND TRANSFER PACKAGE

Enjoy the best of Svalbard, a world of endless daylight. A land where polar bear sightings will delight, guillemot cries echo from the sea cliffs, and beluga whales rise from the sea. Explore tundra adorned with wildflowers and search for arctic fox, or discover historic camps of explorers and hunters. Push through pack ice to find walrus and bearded seals, or simply enjoy the breathtakingly beautiful Norwegian fjords.

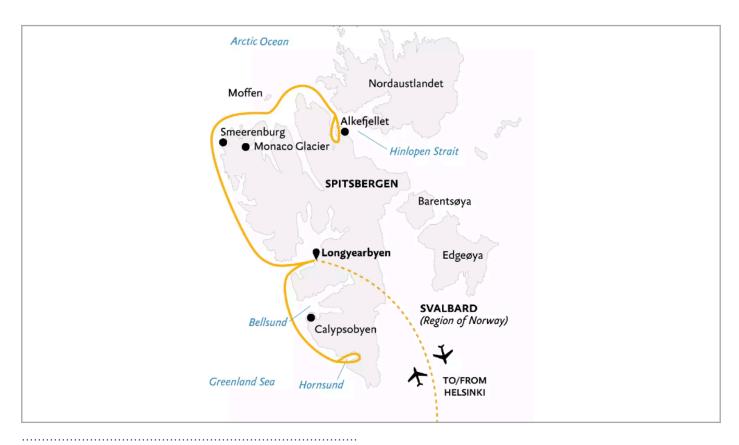
#### **ABOUT QUARK**

When you venture into the untouched wilds of the Arctic, you need a great team around you. The co-founders of Quark Expeditions took the first commercial travellers to the North Pole In 1991, the first-ever tourism transit of the Northeast Passage. That game-changing expedition put Quark Expeditions at the forefront of polar exploration, and now, over 30 years later, they remain the specialists in the Polar regions. Their expedition ships can take you to remote areas that large ships can't reach, getting you off the beaten path and avoiding crowded shore landings. You'll join elite guides trained at Quark Academy and interact directly with world-class polar experts. These specialists create unforgettable Arctic experiences of a lifetime, generating goose-bump moments and connections with nature.

#### YOUR SHIP

Quark's newest ship, Ultramarine, is designed to go beyond the familiar and immerse you in the best the region has to offer. It offers the most spacious suites in its category, breathtaking public spaces, and more outdoor wildlife viewing spaces than other expedition ships its size. Its four zodiac embarkation points and sea-level Zodiac platforms make for efficient loading off the ship and opportunities for spontaneous off-ship adventures. Other unique features include a wrap-around viewing deck to take in the spectacular landscapes, a spa & sauna with a view, the latest sustainability features and much more!

Blue Dot has secured a limited number of discounted cabins for this specific departure.



## Day 1, Saturday 13th June ARRIVE HELSINKI

Your Arctic adventure begins in Helsinki, renowned for its extraordinary architecture and intriguing mix of Eastern and Western influences. Stroll through the vibrant Design District or visit one of the many museums on offer. A representative from Quark will be available at the hotel to answer any questions before we board tomorrow. Tonight's hotel is included, but meals are at your own expense.



## Day 2, Sunday 14th June HELSINKI - LONGYEARBYEN & EMBARKATION

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This morning, we'll transfer to the airport for our flight to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen's largest settlement. On arrival, our bags will be transported directly to the ship, and we may have some free time to explore this quirky town before embarkation in the late afternoon. (Flight schedules to be advised). Get to know your fellow expeditioners and the friendly Quark Team of experts as we sail past the island's rugged, glacier-topped mountains rising majestically from frigid waters. *B/D* 



### Day 3 - 9, Monday 15th - Monday 21st June ARCTIC CRUISE

Our expedition will cover western Spitsbergen and the stunning fjords to the north. From polar flora to immense glaciers, the natural landscape here is just as varied as the wildlife. Each expedition presents new opportunities and different weather and ice, so there is no fixed itinerary; the expert crew onboard will design the daily itinerary to optimise wildlife viewing with an appreciation of the history and geology of Spitsbergen. Some places we may visit include the 14th of July Glacier, Smeerenburg, the towering cliffs of Alkefjellet, home to thousands of Brünnich's guillemots, and the Hinlopen Strait. On land, the tundra can be surprisingly colourful in summer, with wildflowers bursting for a taste of sunshine. Each day, you'll see something interesting: an ever-changing gallery of

spectacular icebergs, coming across a walrus haul-out, or an abandoned historical site from centuries ago. This remote archipelago is one of the world's best places to spot polar bears against stunning natural backdrops of mountains and ice. Your expedition team is as keen as you to find them and will be on constant watch to spot these inspiring creatures — at a safe distance! *All meals on board* 

### Day 10, Monday 22nd June HELSINKI - LONGYEARBYEN & EMBARKATION

Our adventure ends as it began in the historic frontier-style settlement of Longyearbyen. From here, we'll transfer to the airport and fly back to Helsinki. **B** 

#### **ADD-ONS**

Keen to explore more of the stunning far North? Talk to us about our pre- and post-add-on tours to **Iceland** and **Scandinavia**. These land-based tours may be taken in conjunction with, or independent of the Arctic cruise.

#### Included amenities and services onboard

- · Leadership by Quark's experienced Expedition Leaders
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program
- All shore landings per the daily program
- · Hiking with experienced leaders
- · Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
- · All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board
- · Beer, wines, spirits and cocktails during bar hours and dinner
- Presentations by the Expedition Team and guest speakers
- A photographic journal documenting the expedition
- · A pair of waterproof expedition boots to loan
- An official Quark Expeditions® parka to keep
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges
- · All luggage handling aboard the ship
- Emergency Evacuation insurance (maximum benefit of USD\$500,000 per person)

Note: tipping is not included

